

SAMPAN



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THE SAMPAN

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VOICES

Working to Eliminate Stereotypes

By Hannah Sin

What can you, as an Asian Pacific American youth, do to eliminate racial/ethnic stereotypes?

Stereotypes are often the result of collective reasoning or morality. People fall vulnerable to accepting generalizations about ethnic groups before critically examining their implications. However, stereotypes are permitted by an individual to exist on a personal level. I must become more aware of my own cultural heritage as well as my own stereotypes about other ethnic groups before I can expect society to reject the same stereotypes. Through self-realization, I can work toward applying my knowledge to actions. Advocating diversity awareness comes in many different forms and can be achieved at many different levels.

I will not be able to combat prejudice and unjustified assumptions if I am limited by my own ignorance of my Asian identity. Therefore, I must learn to cherish my unique individuality before attempting to teach cultural appreciation to others. In my own experience, I have learned the importance of embracing my heritage first in order to fully value the cultural identity of others. For example, I participated in a summer abroad trip to Toluca, Mexico. The rich cultural experience that I had only amplified my need to know my cultural heritage, so that I returned with a fervor to understand my native background and language. I came back to Toluca the following year with an increased respect for Mexican culture due to my own heightened awareness of my Korean culture.

As I look to my own lifestyle and personal choices, I wonder if I will be able to find stereotypes that dictate some of my decisions? Probably yes. I admit that I see rural America as a haven of narrow-minded ignoramus. Also, I honestly admit that I make assumptions about where new American immigrants have come from without knowing their native countries. My generalizations were challenged when I met people who did not fit the mold. One of my classmates grew up in small-town America, yet her heavy country accent could not conceal her open-mindedness and willingness to embrace different people and experiences. I encountered another person who was ethnically Indian, but grew up in Trinidad. I automatically assumed that his family immigrated directly from India, like my parents had immi-

grated from South Korea, but my assumption was wrong. Before trying to eliminate racial or ethnic stereotypes on a wide scale, it is essential that I try to recognize my own unjustified assumptions.

After initiating a personal quest to abolish stereotypes, I can see that the task towards eliminating stereotypes within my community is very challenging. The first step is to act on a community level. For instance, young Asian Pacific Americans can discourage stereotyping by talking to their peers and acknowledging stereotypes that come up in conversation. I recall informing my friend after she referred to a Chinese logo as being Japanese that not all script characters are the same. It was casual and non-confrontational, yet we were able to have an informative exchange that eliminated the stereotype. Asian American youths can also encourage awareness by taking an active role in their school through participation in social-awareness clubs. At my own school, there is a Diversity Awareness Club that acts as a forum for young people to address issues such as ethnic stereotypes. I have worked hard to establish an "Asian American Awareness Month." This year, as president of DAC, I initiated an after-school discussion on general Asian American and Middle Eastern American issues. It was fruitful and engaged conversation that definitely helped widen student perspectives on the experiences of Asian and Middle Eastern American youth. There are also opportunities in the classroom to address all forms of stereotypes, including correcting a generalization made by a student or teacher.

As members of a national community, it is also the obligation of Asian Pacific American youth to help combat stereotypes on a large scale. One of the main avenues for fostering stereotypes is the media, which often targets young people through teen magazines and shows like the Simpsons. However, APA youths can change the way their country is being shaped by mass media by demanding more diverse and accurate programming in the television and radio industry.

I recall one day when I was driving home from school and I heard an offensive prank call made by a radio DJ. He was trying to depict an inarticulate, clueless "Chinese" caller who was demanding "shrimp fried rice." I was completely offended and outraged because such caricatures only foster the stereotype that all Asians are Chinese and come "fresh off the boat." I called the radio station and demanded to talk to the person who was responsible for putting such material on the air. I talked to

the supervisor and explained that such programming was demeaning to their Asian American listeners and only encouraged more division among ethnic groups in the country. I eventually talked to the producer, who took the initiative to call me later, and I also advertised this injustice on the Internet.

It is vital that young Asian Americans take a stand against stereotyping in the media because many of the generalizations that Americans possess are the direct product of caricatures that appear on television, in magazines, and on radio. APA youths are bombarded with inaccurate depictions of ethnic groups on a daily basis and will still continue to be shaped by such depictions as long as they sit in passive acceptance of these images. Contacting the stations and companies that foster these images can be done through phone calls and letter writing and by informing others that these images are unjust and should not be tolerated.

Young Asian Pacific Americans, like myself, can help abolish stereotypes by first educating themselves on their cultural history so that they will be prepared to combat APA stereotypes, and also by taking direct action in their own communities and on a national level. I can make a significant contribution to eliminate ethnic stereotypes by addressing their existence in myself and in the environment around me. Ignorance is the root of stereotypes and can be abolished through deliberate acts of education, like initiating personal discussion among peers and contacting local and national television and radio stations that promote ethnic generalizations.

(Hannah Sin of Decatur, Georgia, is the first place winner of the Organization of Chinese Americans 1998 National Essay Contest. Sin, who graduated from Westminster School in Atlanta, has been accepted at Georgetown University. The contest is open to all Asian American students in grades 9 to 12. This year's essay topic was, "What can you do as an Asian Pacific Youth to eliminate racial/ethnic stereotypes?"

OCA National President Michael Lin said, "This year's essay topic allowed our youth to draw upon their personal experiences in seeking ways to solve what is still a widespread problem for the APA community - that is, racial and ethnic stereotypes. All of us must actively work to eliminate stereotypes of all kinds. Over the last two years the APA community has had to fend off a host of negative stereotypes which portray APAs as 'foreigners' and

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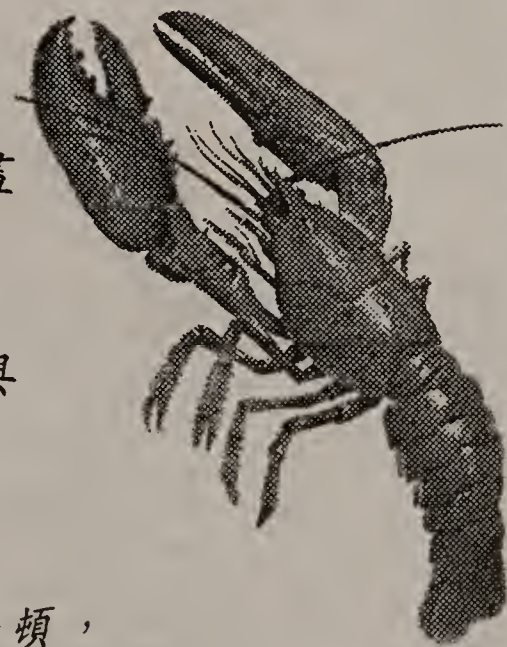
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NEWS/CALENDAR

NEWS IN BRIEF

LOCAL

Chinese human rights activists are urging Boston Mayor Thomas Menino and members of the Boston City Council to send a letter to officials of Hangzhou, China, to express concern over the recent arrest of democracy activists there.

Noting Boston's sister city relationship with Hangzhou, members of the China: Long March for Democracy Fund say the city should send a letter to



Workers in the city's summer youth employment program spent last month painting a new Chinatown mural at the South Cove YMCA.

express concern about 'human rights issues and the fate of the dissidents.' In a letter to city officials, they note that both Menino and City Council President James Kelly supported the building of a Chinatown monument to the Chinese who died in the 1989 demonstrations at Tiananmen Square.

The letter also points out that unlike Hangzhou's residents, the citizens of Taipei, another of Boston's sister cities, enjoy equality, rule of law, freedom and democracy.

Several weeks ago, members of the Chinese Democratic Party were arrested by Chinese officials in Hangzhou. While some of the dissidents have been released, others continue to be detained. The dissidents were reportedly detained for attempting to register a legal, nonviolent democratic party in the city.

The letter points out that the right to register such a party is protected under the Chinese Constitution.

Arrested by Hangzhou officials was Party founder Wang Youcai, a student leader during the Tiananmen Square demonstrations of 1989 whose name was on the government's most wanted list following the Tiananmen event.

Democracy Fund members who signed the letter to the mayor and city councilors are Chung chi Che', Wang Dan, Dr. John (Kar-kin) Zao, Professor Luiji Guo, Dr. Albert Tse, Dr. Jianli Yang, Liu Gang, Qiang Pan, Ian (Wai-yan) Ma, Lyan (Lan-kok) Lee, Anita (Sau-mei) Ng, Dr. Steve (Chiyen) Sham.

Anne Marie Booth has been named the new executive director of the Asian American Resource Workshop (AARW), replacing Tracey Tsugawa, who has left the organization to pursue other employment.

Board President Don Misumi said Tsugawa "has been an eloquent spokesperson for the organization and had made many friends in the community."

"While we are sad to see Tracey go, we are at the same time excited about the future of the organization," said Misumi.

Booth is a recipient of AARW's 1998 Community Leadership Award and has recently served as director of community programs at the Asian Community Development Corporation. She is also a board member of the Asian Pacific American Agenda Coalition as well as an elected member of the Chinatown Neighborhood Council.

Neil Chin and the Kew Sing Music Club were the recipients of the Chinese Historical Society of New England Soujourner Awards. The awards were made at the Historical Society's 1998 Annual Meeting and Appreciation Dinner at the China Pearl Restaurant in Chinatown.

Chin, a long-time resident of Chinatown and a founder of many of the community's major organizations, including the Asian Community Development Corporation and the Asian American Civic Association, was recognized for his "willingness to share his knowledge and his selfless dedication to improving the quality of life in the Chinatown community."

The Kew Sing Music Club, which was founded in 1939, has been providing the Chinese community with Cantonese opera music for almost 60 years.

The Music Club was recognized for its preservation of Cantonese opera. "The persistence and energy of the early participants, some of whom are still active, has kept this unique opera music form alive and accessible to longtime residents as well as to newcomers from China and Hong Kong," according to the citation.

The Historical Society also announced the winners of the Chinese Historical Society of New England-Waterman Scholarship Awards at its annual meeting. This year's recipients are Man Ding, who will attend

Harvard University, and Kent Wong, who will attend the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Recipients renewing previous awards are Suzanne Chan, Tufts University; Hoanh Canh La, Bentley College; Aaron Leung, Brandeis University; Diane Hui Liu, Boston College; and Nancy Mui, Boston University.

The Asian American Bank & Trust Company opened a new branch at 230 Harvard Ave. in Allston on June 30. The Allston branch is the Bank's fourth branch to open in the area.

Helen Wong and Cindy Lau of Chinatown were among 36 Boston teens inaugurated into the mayor's 1998-1999 Youth Council. Mayor Menino named the members of this year's Council during a ceremony at Northeastern University June 29.

NATIONAL

Vice President Al Gore told over 600 participants at the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) National Convention in Washington, D.C., last month that the US needs to advance the cause of liberty by closing the opportunity gap and fighting for affirmative action, a fair and accurate census, and food stamps for legal immigrants.

Gore encouraged OCA to share in his vision "to prove to men and women throughout this world that people of different racial and ethnic backgrounds, of all faiths and creeds, can not only work and live together, but can enrich and ennoble both themselves and our common purpose."

Gore praised OCA and the Chinese American community for being a crucial part of America's past - exemplified in leaders in government, the arts, and science - and predicted that OCA would play an even greater role in America's present and future.

In other convention action, 16 of the nation's top Asian Pacific American and civil rights leaders participated in a groundbreaking discussion on race relations and the state of America in recognition of the President's Initiative on Race. The leaders, who included representatives of the African American, Mexican American, and Jewish American communities, stressed the need to focus on the principles of justice and equality for all Americans rather than on individual racial categories. Panelists envisioned coalition-building among Chinese Americans and other racial minorities who face subtle forms of discrimination.

The Convention also passed a resolution calling on its members to boycott all Wolfgang Puck and Barbara Lazaroff Restaurant products. OCA took the action after the owners of the Obachine Restaurant refused to remove an offensive picture of a Chinese man with exaggerated, feminized features and a long braid who is shown drinking tea.

The convention also passed a resolution opposing Washington state's anti-affirmative action Initiative 200, as well as a resolution supporting Asian American and ethnic studies programs in institutions of higher learning.

The Asian Studies resolution stated that Asian American and ethnic studies programs provide crucial background history on the "contemporary, historical and future experiences of Asian Pacific Americans and other communities." Such programs also provide "a meeting ground for American pluralism" and contribute "to the inclusiveness of all people's diverse history, culture and experiences creating educational environments equally welcome, valued and heard." The resolution will be sent to the officials of applicable universities.

President Clinton has signed a bill that partially restores food stamps to legal immigrants whose benefits were cut in the 1996 welfare law. The Republican leadership in the House unsuccessfully attempted to remove the food stamp provisions from the Agricultural Research Bill, which, among other things, restores federal food assistance benefits to an estimated 250,000 legal immigrants. Advocates say the bill is a "down payment" toward restoring food stamp benefits for all of the 900,000 legal immigrants cut from the federal program.

The Agricultural bill restores food stamps to children, the elderly, and the disabled who were in the country as of Aug. 22, 1996. The bill extends eligibility for refugees from their first five years in the country to the first seven years. The bill also restores food stamp eligibility to Hmong and Lao immigrants.

INTERNATIONAL

The American Red Cross is supporting the international appeal to help millions of people affected by devastating, month-long floods in China. The international Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, which is part of the International Red Cross movement and meets the essential human needs following a natural disaster, is seeking emergency funds to provide rice, wheat, medicines, water purification tablets and additional medical supplies. All items will be purchased in China and distributed directly by the Red Cross Society of China.

Extensive flooding began in March - two months earlier than usual for the rainy season - and presently has left millions of people homeless, injured over 120,000, and killed more than 1,000 people. The three hardest hit provinces - Hunan, Hubei, and Jiangxi - have lost more than one million homes. The flooding is the worst in living memory in many areas.

Homes and personal food stocks were washed away by torrents of water. Crops were destroyed by flooding. People are now living in make-shift shelters with little food or clean water.

To make a financial contribution to support the Red Cross efforts to provide food, clothing, shelter and essential medications to flood victims, call the American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay at (617)375-0700, extension 282, or mail a contribution to International Response Fund-Chinese Floods, American Red Cross, 285 Columbus Ave., Boston, MA 02116.

OPINION/LETTERS

LETTERS

July 9, 1998

Atrocities in Indonesia

As a reader of your newspaper every month, I have been able to understand more about my own culture, being Chinese-American, and I am very grateful for that. The reason why I am writing to you is because I have found some disturbing news on the Internet. It pertains to the problems occurring in Indonesia and what is actually happening to the Chinese living there. The website is called Asian Buying Consortium (<http://www.abcfiach.com>) and it has its own message forums where people all over the world can discuss any kind of Asian-related issues. One person had posted a topic called "Organized Rape in Indonesia" at the end of June, and would like his message to be spread throughout the Asian community. After reading this post, I talked to family and friends about it and none of them knew about the attacks being made on the Chinese in Indonesia. Hopefully you will help spread the word and print this message, which I have included with this letter, in the next Sampan. Therefore the people of Boston will have some knowledge of this horrible crime.

To understand more about this please visit the message forums at <http://www.abcfiach.com> and also <http://www.huaren.org/focus/id/061798-01.html> which gives a report of what is happening to the Chinese in Indonesia. Thank you.

M.L.Y.
Boston, MA

This is the message posted on <http://www.abcfiach.com/>.

Original Message—From: metta murdaya
Subject: My home country - that hellhole...

Hi guys. For once, I'm writing on a serious note. As most of you know, the rioting in Indonesia is over. BUT I'm sure many of you don't know of the atrocities that are STILL happening to us ethnic Chinese over there. It is far from over, and for some, the worst has just begun. Apparently, organized rapes and attacks on women, children, and entire families are happening by organized groups of people. Women ages 10-55 have been victims.

Some perpetrators (and that is less than a handful) who did get caught have reported that they were paid to gang rape the Chinese. Many were dressed in security / police uniforms, and many not. These attacks happen in public places, in front of MANY people, as well as in private (hijack / kidnap / break-ins). These attacks have often led to death, sometimes at the hands of the attackers, but also from suicide. The victims commit suicide because they have nowhere to turn to for help and feel like they just can't stand living anymore. (After being gang raped by men in public, then beaten, or being done in by a group of so-called police officers, who would?) Also being investigated now is the sudden "release" of 800 prisoners from a jail. These prisoners were paid to attack and given transportation to "target" areas by "someone" who released them. Hundreds of attacks have happened. I don't want to get into any gore / horror stories (lest you think I'm getting all sensational), but I will let the attachment speak for itself.

Please take a few minutes just to read it because it goes into more accurate detail about the situation there. Tell me if you can't open it, or didn't get it, because I feel you all should read it. Why is this happening? THE POINT IS - anti-Chinese groups (native Indonesians), using the name of Islam, are basically committing racist attacks against us, saying that we must be punished because we are Chinese and not Muslim. Or so that's the running excuse used by the perpetrators. I think the masterminds behind these heinous crimes just think that genocide is the solution to their problems, and that we are a good scapegoat to release their frustrations.

My purpose in telling you all this is: I want to help spread the word and create more awareness that these atrocities are happening, even though the mainstream media is trying to tell the world that Indonesia is safe now. For the most part, it is. Businesses don't need to pull out, and there is no major panic over there. For the most part, life is continuing (economically and politically). But from the human rights perspective, all is not quiet on this eastern front. It is anything but. I have had tons more news stories passed on to me. I check with family still in Indonesia, and this is NOT rumor. Please read the attachment, and check out these links below. I've tried to keep this email simple so the content and medium don't overwhelm the message. Meanwhile, I've been moved to Singapore, so I won't be living in Jakarta anymore. Strange - this is just happening in Indonesia, and NOWHERE else in the region!

Questions? Email me, please. Metta

If you care about what is happening to us Ethnic-Chinese Indonesians in Indonesia at the moment, PLEASE check out this site: <http://www.huaren.org> (a non-profit org/site to promote awareness of human rights violations, among other things, to overseas Chinese). There's a special report on the ethnic-Chinese Indonesians right now.

Here is an article titled: "Mass Rape Has Become an Internationally Recognized War Crime." The article describes mass, organized rape as a strategy often used by groups against "opposing" ethnic and religious groups, to defeat / weaken them, and how it is being dealt with by the UN. <http://www.huaren.org/focus/id/061798-01.html>

Indonesian Ghosts

By X. Drew Liu

This week the sleeping lion of China has been poked -- a lion Napoleon described as sleeping peacefully for centuries. To many Asian leaders, victimizing ethnic Chinese is not a new strategy for the racially dominant groups to vent their frustrations. Indeed, from Suharto's killing of an estimated 300,000 ethnic Chinese in the 1960s to the vast exodus of ethnic Chinese boat people from Vietnam in the 1980s, the racially motivated assault and cleansing never stopped. But this time, the Indonesian savagery in May 1998 against ethnic Chinese women and children may have turned the tide among one-fifth of the human race.

Ironically, the difference was made by modern communications, like TV and the Internet. Graphic pictures began to arrive in people's living rooms of the rape, torture, and killing of ethnic Chinese women and children. Horrible stories were reported in the Chinese media of gang rape and the fatal stabbing of small children in front of family members. Watching these in the headlines of the Chinese media throughout the world for days and weeks proved too much for a people who still have a collective memory of injustice and humiliation during the last 150 years.

This is a memory of the Opium War (1840-1842), a war the British fought to gain Hong Kong and the rights to import addictive drugs from British East India to China. This is also a memory of the Rape of Nanking when Japanese soldiers indiscriminately killed about 300,000 Chinese men, women and children. In short, a memory full of suffering and death. Curiously, the Chinese communities in mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore and elsewhere bear little resemblance in social system and ideology except for this common memory of victimization.

Indeed, the Chinese communities throughout the world are witnessing a rare solidarity among themselves over this incident, something unseen since the end of the Second World War. Even Beijing changed its original hands-off tactics. It allowed the public to watch the Indonesian atrocities through an uncensored Hong Kong cable TV channel, and the Chinese Central TV network showed footage of the Chinese foreign minister pressing his Indonesian counterpart to address the issue during their recent Manila meeting.

Today most Chinese see the Indonesian atrocities as human rights violations, and rightly so. This perception may deepen their commitment to human rights principles. For the Habibi government, a public apology, thorough investigation, and swift justice are the right things to do. However, that government seems callous and slow to react, apparently hopeful that the event will die down like ones in the past. But it will not. And by failing to act forcefully, the Indonesians let an alternative and dangerous force emerge from the ghost and the darkness of the past memory, a force of hatred and vengeance -- such as militant Chinese nationalism -- that will someday bring destruction to both China and its neighbors.

(X. Drew Liu is an editor at the China Strategic Institute in Washington, DC.)

Demonstration in Boston

Several Chinese organizations in the Boston area plan to walk from Chinatown to Quincy Market to raise public awareness of the atrocities being inflicted on the Chinese in Indonesia.

Participants will meet in Chinatown's Gateway Park on Aug. 8 at 10 am and walk through downtown Boston to the Holocaust Memorial at Quincy Market.

The organizers of the event say 1,020 houses have been burned, 1,188 people killed, and 163 women and children raped in the violence against Indonesia's ethnic Chinese.

The event is organized by the Association of Overseas Hong Kong Chinese for Democracy and Human Rights, the Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association, and the Overseas Macau Chinese Association of Greater Boston. For information call Peter C.K. Chan at (617)350-7566 or cchan19226@aol.com; or call Joe Tsao at (617)964-0308.

On the Cover: *Painting by Zhang Shao Hua, whose works were recently exhibited at the Chinese American Fine Arts Society in Chinatown.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ave., Boston, MA 0211. For info contact Marie Mook at 617-482-4243.

Big Sisters Need Help: The Big Sisters Association of Greater Boston is seeking Asian women to provide friendship and support to Asian girls in the community. Volunteer information sessions will be held at Big Sisters' Boston office at 161 Massachusetts Ave., 2nd floor, on Aug. 13, 6 to 7 p.m.; Aug. 19, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.; and Aug. 27, 6 to 7 p.m. For info call 236-8060.

Mass High School Diploma (GED Certificate): Enroll in the GED program at Boston Asian: Youth Essential Service. YES will prepare you for the GED exam. Hours are flexible. To be eligible, participants must be a Boston resident, 16-21 years of age, and have left school before graduation. Interested people can sign up at: Boston Asian: YES, 199 Harrison

LINCS Participants Needed: The Allston-Brighton Healthy Boston Coalition is seeking Allston-Brighton residents to participate in the Leadership to Improve Neighborhood Communication and Services (LINCS) project. Participants learn English skills, community organizing, and leadership skills to conduct projects in their communities. The program starts in October and runs 12 hours per week for eight and a half months. Interested residents can attend one of the following informational meetings: Aug. 18, Aug. 20, Aug. 24, or Aug. 26 at 6 P.M. at the Jackson/Mann Community Center, 500 Cambridge St., Allston. For info call Janet Bucciarelli at 782-3886.

ELECTION '98

Flynn Seeks Asian Community Support

When former Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn took a stroll through Chinatown one recent afternoon, he couldn't walk a block without bumping into someone who recognized him.

As Flynn heads into the home stretch in his quest to become the next US representative from the 8th District, the former mayor and recent US Ambassador to the Vatican is counting on old ties and long experience to help him maintain his current front-runner status and come out on top in the September Democratic primary, whose winner will likely go on to victory in November.

Although Flynn only recently moved into the 8th District by renting an apartment in East Boston, he has already represented 40 percent of its registered voters during his years as mayor.

Flynn and a crowded field of candidates are seeking to replace Rep. Joseph Kennedy, who announced earlier this year that he would not be seeking reelection. While Flynn had been seeking the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, he dropped out of that race to seek instead the 8th District seat.

Among the 12 candidates in the race are Somerville Mayor Michael Capuano, Majorie Clapprood, George Bachrach, Charles Yancey, and John O'Connor.

Flynn has been the first to reach out to the Asian community by meeting with local Asian community media and also through and appearance at the recent Lee Family Association National Convention in Boston this summer. In pitching his message to Asian voters, Flynn notes that he was the first Boston mayor to name an Asian community liaison at Boston City Hall and was also the originator of the city's neighborhood councils. He also says he worked to increase the amount of affordable housing in the Asian community by supporting several developments in the Chinatown area.

Flynn was a state representative in the 1970s, a city councilor from the late 1970s to early 1983, and mayor from 1983 to 1993. Starting in 1993 Flynn was the Clinton Administration's ambassador to the Vatican.

In a recent interview with the Sampan, Flynn offered his views on a broad range of subjects.

Recognizing that small businesses make up the backbone of the Chinese immigrant economy, Flynn said he would fight for tax breaks, access to loans, and additional technical support for small business owners.

Noting the diversity of American life and the global economy, Flynn said it's important for Americans to expand their understanding of other cultures and religions. He noted that as ambassador to the Vatican he met with religious leaders from around the world and gained a greater understanding of world cultures.

"We need to understand better the cultures, religions, and ethnic backgrounds of all people," said

Flynn, who traveled to India, Pakistan, China and Japan during his years as ambassador. Flynn says he is the only 8th District candidate with foreign policy experience and argues that a congressman must address both national and world issues.

Flynn said other themes of his campaign include the need to make health care more accessible to the uninsured and the need to make education more affordable for working families. The candidate also emphasized the need to create jobs and help small businesses.

Flynn suggested that the state's budget surplus could be used to finance a program to make health care more affordable. "I would use a certain percentage of that money for providing elderly and working families with children with health care," said Flynn, who believes that people who are working and paying taxes should have access to affordable health insurance.

Flynn also wants to make education more affordable by providing working families with greater access to low-interest loans. He argues that students who borrow money to finance a college education often end up paying high interest costs. While the annual cost of a college education for many students in private colleges is in the \$20,000 range, that figure can rise even higher when interest is calculated into the cost. He said the government has to ensure that people who want to get an education are not deterred by its high cost.

Flynn also said more attention should be paid to the concerns of the elderly. "I always admired the respectful way the Asian community treats its elderly," said Flynn, who told an audience at the Lee Family Association convention last month that Asian approaches to family issues could serve as a model for others.

Although Flynn suggested that bilingual education programs can be helpful to limited English students for limited periods of time, he said that some students may be spending too much time in the programs. "A lot of Asian parents want their children to learn English as fast as possible," said Flynn. "I found the Asian parents were very committed to children being integrated into the mainstream ... as quickly as possible."

Flynn said he was concerned about reports that some limited-English students nationwide may spend up to seven years in a bilingual program and still not learn English well. "I don't think that's healthy," he said. "There's got to be a time



Former Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn in Chinatown

period."

In offering his views on affirmative action programs, Flynn said he has always believed it's important to have government and workplaces "that reflects the diversity of Boston." But he said the key to making workplaces more diverse and representative is to expand the effort to recruit qualified people. "It's about reaching out, recruiting qualified capable people," said Flynn, who added that he began a city effort to increase the number of Asians on the Boston Police Department.

Flynn, however, said he opposes setting quotas for the city's exam schools, arguing that there needs to be some schools set aside for academic achievers. "You just can't have everybody going to any school," he said, adding that not every student is academically gifted and should even go to college. What's important, he added, is to ensure "a level playing field."

Flynn said it's important to encourage minority children to strive to enter the city's exam schools and said the schools should provide extra help for students preparing to take the exam school test.

"I think the talent is out there," said Flynn, who believes that "you don't have to relax standards" to ensure diverse schools and workplaces.

Flynn said that while federal law states clearly that it's illegal for foreign governments and nationals to contribute to political campaigns, he said it's wrong to scapegoat ethnic Americans "as being representatives of foreign governments."

He said he was also critical of recent welfare reform legislation and its effort to withdraw benefits from legal permanent residents, particularly children. "These young immigrants are going to be the future of America," he said. "We should educate them, train them."

"I have a very clear record to run on," said Flynn, who said he can provide a strong and effective voice for "working families."

"I've fought for social and economic justice all my life," he added. "I want to be the congressman that's committed to social and economic justice."

-Robert O'Malley

CALENDAR / NEWS

Calendar

Village of Dreams by Yoichi Higashi: Aug. 26, 8 p.m.; Aug. 27, 6 p.m.; Aug. 30, 12 noon, at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. A sparkling jewel from one of Japan's most accomplished veteran directors. The story follows the idyllic childhood of twin brothers who went to become famous artists. Set in the sun-drenched countryside during the summer of 1948, the film follows the boys on their adventures: fishing, chasing birds, getting into trouble, and discovering the secrets of life.

Kevin So in Concert: Aug. 29, 8 p.m., Club Passim, Harvard Square. For info call 492-7679.

TRAINING

Over 10 local semiconductor companies and 10 colleges are joining forces with SEMATECH and SEMI/SEMATECH to mount a campaign to develop a high-tech workforce in the New England area. The initiative is designed to fulfill the demand for more than 5,000 semiconductor technicians and skilled operators over the next four years. This new workforce is needed to take jobs projected to pay as much as \$30,000 to \$40,000 in the first year of employment.

The semiconductor manufacturers, which include IBM, Teradyne,

Raytheon Microelectronics, Intel Massachusetts, and others, have teamed up with Bunker Hill Community college and other area community colleges to help students prepare for high-tech manufacturing jobs in the industry.

To learn more about the industry and the need for skilled technicians, potential students can call 1-888-4CHIPJOBS or contact World Wide Web site www.4chipjobs.com.

SEMITECH is a non profit consortium of 10 semiconductor manufacturers and SEMI/SEMATECH is a non-profit consortium of suppliers to the industry.

For information regarding the program at Bunker Hill Community College, call Michael McSweeney at 228-2294.

Adult patrons for whom English is a second language are invited to expand their English language skills by participating in an ongoing "ESL Conversation Group" that meets four times each week at the Brighton Branch of the Boston Public Library, 40 Academy Hill Road.

Groups meet from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Monday evenings and from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on Tues., Wed., and Fri. mornings. Volunteer English-speaking tutors serve as facilitators for the groups, which are free and open to the public. New members are always welcome. Preregistration is not required. For info contact the Brighton Branch Library at 782-6032.

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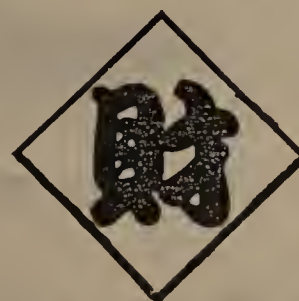
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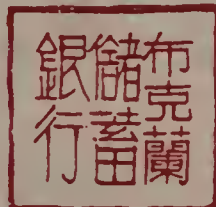
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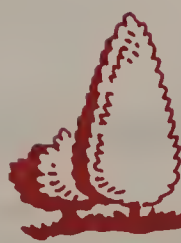
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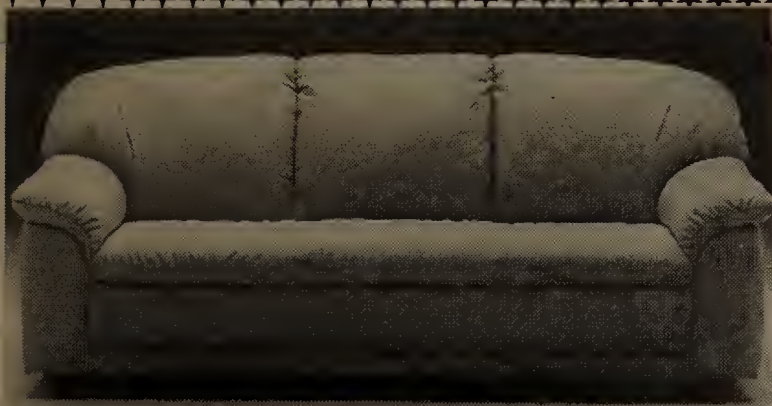
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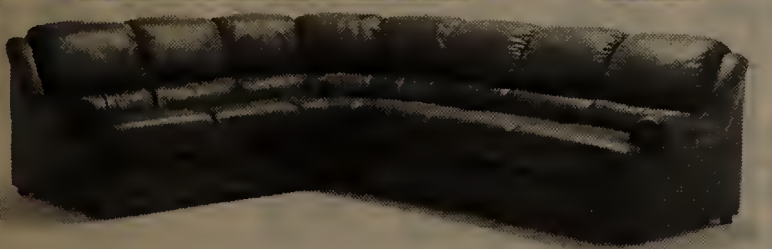
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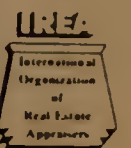
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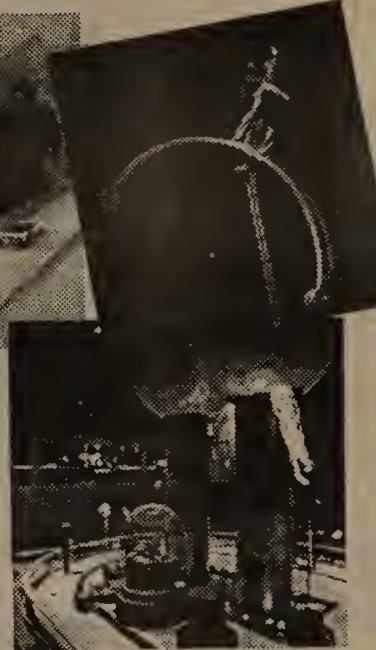


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6

CODE: FFF

電視電腦高科技對兒童的影響

看電視的利與弊

看電視還有助於孩子的形象思維並開發想像力，我們會發現：許多具有美術天份的少年兒童都愛看電視尤其是美術動畫片，家長們也不必因孩子已上了中學還愛看幼稚的迪斯尼卡通而責怪他們，這些影片本來是老少咸宜的，多看有助於增長藝術感與創造性，何況總比讓他們看暴力色情的東西要強吧？

當然對已上學的孩子來說，整天看電視會影響學習。尤其是加上電子遊戲機等附件之後，玩遊戲的上癮程度如同中了煙毒

以身作則。

如果家長不想讓孩子過多看電視。唯一的辦法是精神轉移法，陪孩子干其他事，或者帶他們外出運動等，許多美國家長是很注重陪孩子參加體育鍛煉和社會活動的，而我們這些為在美國生存整日繁忙的華人家長卻沒那麼多時間和閒心陪伴孩子，有時還真得拜託電視為孩子作伴呢。家長也會發現孩子還通過看電視獲得許多書本上學不到的知識。不少在美國長大的兒童知識相當豐富，從宇航太空、地理生物、到歷史名人、世界風貌，常常出口成章，理論講得一套一套，還有根有據，許多知識我們都沒聽說或者只是一知半解，如問他們哪里學來的，往往回答「電視里看的」比「學校老師教的」要多，而且老師們也建議學生跟電視學習，電視作為現代教育家的功能還真

電腦比電視更可怕

盡管許多人批評電視節目的不檢點對下一代造成不良影響，但電視對全社會產生的正面作用是勿庸置疑的。電視本身就是科學發展的產物，作為一種聲象並舉的傳播媒體，它又是宣傳科學的有利工具。現在隨著個人電腦的發展，已大有將取代電視之勢。計算機已不僅是快速計算的工具，而具有文字處理、設計繪圖、娛樂遊戲、通訊聯絡等多種功能，而家長們已感到孩子們中電腦毒的威脅會遠超過電視。因為看電視只是單向接收，可玩電腦卻是雙向交流，孩子們一旦上了電腦就全身心投入，起初以為買電腦是為孩子提供學習工具的父母們很快就發現上了當，孩子們玩遊戲的時間遠超過用電腦學習的時間，但我們仍然應該感激電視電腦這類高科技玩意兒為下一代創造了更加豐富的新生活，作為家長，我們不能因噎廢食。

美國的家用電腦的普及度已可與電視相比。美國學校都有很好的電腦教學設備。孩子們從幼兒園起就開始接觸電腦，當家里買了電腦之後，孩子們很快就成了專家，電腦中所有的軟件程序都被他們抖落出來試個遍，因而沒

那麼多時間陪電腦的家長們遇到不會用的還得向他們請教。而且電腦的更新换代日益迅速，以往那種把家長用剩的老舊電腦留給孩子用的觀念已經過時了，孩子們非得用最新最好的，還催著家長換型升級。家庭得不斷配置打印機、掃描機等，以使家用電腦系列成套化。之後，就象電視錄像帶越積越多，各種電腦軟件磁盤光盤也會逐漸堆積成山。再後來，就象有電視不能不接裝有線頻道以至衛星接收器一樣，孩子又會催著要聯通電腦網絡，小孩子考慮的只是需要卻不關心經濟負擔，對家長們來說，一次性付費買電視電腦，還好辦，但其後聯通各

項服務的持久性收費卻令人頭痛，在美國生活的家長們都有經驗，家里最早只付電話帳單，後來增加了有線電視、無線電話（大哥大）、再加衛星電視和電腦網絡，似乎先進科技總能發明出新鮮玩意來讓你掏錢。有位華人家長說：「自從電腦聯了網，每月帳單都上百，雖然基本月費不算多，可許多服務進人後要另收錢，我那上中學的兒子可不管這套，想往哪聯就往哪聯，你想鎖碼也難不住他，留下一堆帳單讓爹媽付。」這就是為孩子開發新科技的家長們的下場！有些家長因單位里已有電腦網絡使用方便，不願再自己掏錢在家聯網，但是否能經得

住孩子們的軟磨硬泡？而
且能否隨著機型的不斷發
展來永遠滿足孩子們家用
微機更新換代的需要，家
長們想望子成龍嗎？先投
資吧！誰讓我們生活在這
電腦飛速發展的時代！

（樓蘭所著的【在美國當家長】一書
已由中國航空工業出版社出版，此書
為『話說美國』叢書之一，以中國孩
子在美國成長的歷程，感性地描述了
家長們的困惑與經驗，對在美國的華
人家長與教育工作者很有啟迪。購書
可洽波士頓華埠中國書店426-0088）

出版預告

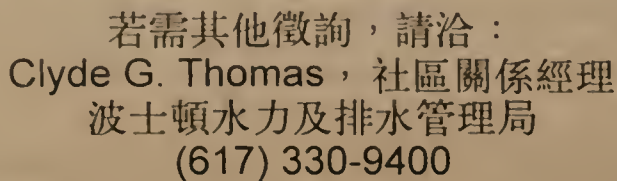
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處理，多謝合作。

又本報歡迎各界投稿、來信、及
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可洽波士頓華埠中國書店(26-0888)

尋根佈道會

另一方面，中國人更熱衷於從翻譯書籍和介紹國外科技、經濟、社會、教育等的發展的著作中了解世界，也充實自己的知識，並在實際中及時應用，因此這類應時書籍很受歡迎。介紹國外政體及一些轉型中國家的（如新南非）書籍資料有限，卻物以罕為貴。如一位曾深入前線採訪過海灣戰爭的新華社記者所著書籍，長期列入多家書店的暢銷榜。目前，介紹國外情況的書籍要想吸引讀者，已不能只是走馬觀花式的遊記或風光名勝等類似導遊書的形式了，必須有理有據有事

中國大陸的報刊出版業近年來發展更快，新報新刊不斷出現，盡管報刊價格已比幾年前上漲了約十倍，卻仍然訂購者眾，一些新刊物還走高價精印路線。中國傳媒的廣告量也令海外華人咋舌，許多報刊因頁數有規定，還不得不限制廣告量，想登廣告者得提前預訂預付款才排得上隊。但媒體競爭依舊激烈，要想保持讀者和廣告客戶，媒體必須保持高質量，如今爛報爛刊和印制粗糙的盜版書已沒人待見了。

八月八日說明會

由昆明市中文學校舉辦的第四屆「中華文化學習營」，訂於八月二十三至二十八日在 William 女童軍營地舉行。六日五夜的住宿營只收回成本費 \$135.79，費用包括每日三餐、住營費用及節目材料費，指導及輔導老師各項，則由中華文化促進協會負責籌募。昆明市中文學校謝校長表示：「低收費並不表示沒有好水準的項目，而是降低收費使更多學生能有機會了解學習更多中華文化。」

為了使學習營更專業化，謝校長六月底親往多倫多邀請文化大學舞蹈系教授沈老師及前台視美勞節目主持梁瑪莉女士，指導

中國民族舞蹈、中國結、壓花、禮品包裝等，謝校長指導中國剪紙、七巧圖，譚偉賢先生指導中國扯鈴、花式游泳，加上女童軍波士頓團隊指導女童軍手工、群體活動遊戲及最受歡迎的營火晚會。

八月八日星期六上午十時在昆市興國街聖心學校舉行營前說明講座，已報名參加的請準時出席參加，未報名而想報名者，亦請在該日前往報名及參加營前說明會。

如有查詢，請電：617-770-3166。

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我教婷婷看「三國」

林到

雄渾的男聲獨唱主題歌道：「滾滾長江東逝水，浪花淘盡英雄。是非成敗轉頭空，青山依舊在，幾度夕陽紅。」……緊接著，電視機螢幕上便展現出一幕幕扣人心弦的歷史畫面。從東漢末年劉備初登大地上，那鼓角聲鳴，刀光劍影的情景，那逐鹿中原，群雄並起的舌劍唇槍，那運籌帷幄決勝千里的外智大勇，那殲精竭慮，殲滅我詐的險惡詭譎，那與亡國之君共患難的狂歡與血淚……直叫人欲罷不能。洋洋八十四集的《三國演義》電視連續劇中，多的故事大都曲折離奇，峰迴路轉，我家的婷婷成了「三國迷」了。

我常想，在美國長大的孩子毫無疑問要把英文學得棒棒的，要熟諳美國和西方的文化背景，要努力精通現代科技知識，要學會在美國生存和發展的本領和技巧，以便投身於主流社會而立足。婷婷今年十二歲，讀七年級。六歲來美前已讀完八冊小學語文，至今堅持寫日記每週兩天用中文，五週用英文，今年又開始堅持每週至少讀英文一篇中國歷史故事（五百字左右）。她興趣廣泛，琴（鋼琴）棋（國際象棋、中國象棋、圍棋）書（中國書法）都是她的業餘愛好，玩電腦、看電視、讀小說自不在話下。對中外歷史興趣也是濃濃的，聽過許多歷史故事。我是歷史劇的愛好者，經常租來歷史電視錄像帶和精彩部分，婷婷也有

時湊過來看些片斷，聽我講解。我答應安排她系統地看全套三國演義電視連續劇，並特地在書坊買了一套三國演義原本，與電視連續劇相參照，以便更透徹地了解三國人物和故事，便於指導婷婷。三國演義電視連續劇八十四集，比原本一二零回在題材方面更集中精鍊，人物形象更鮮明。電視劇又劃分為五部分：群雄逐鹿、赤壁鏖戰、三足鼎立、南征北戰、三分歸一，再配上一些字幕，使頭緒紛繁的人物和事件脈絡更加分明。我們約定每天看兩集，看前由我介紹基本劇情，有時還繪出示意圖，有時或對劇中的文言詞語加以必要解說，這樣效果很好，她大都能較透徹地領會劇情，若再有疑難，則暫時中止收看，作些補充解釋。每天看畢，我祖孫倆一起回味劇中主要內容，還討論分析引人勝處，以提高欣賞水平。我們幾乎天天「風雨不阻」地花兩小時看三國，論三國，她越看越起勁。四集要點貫串起來，她卻能說得頭頭是道，說到其中的故事，竟能八九不離十。

看完全部三國，婷婷真是大開眼界，懂得了許多知識，領略了許多人生經驗，說起話來，增添了不少新詞匯，諸如「兵不厭詐」、「一戰而屈人之兵」、「善者不戰」、「我自有一計」、「善戰者不戰」、「我自有一計」、「善戰者不戰」、「我自有一計」……等等。她又花了點時間閱讀歷史教科書有關部分，對這段歷史更有概括了解。她也懂得，她看到的三國並不是歷史本來面目，而只是歷史演義作品；劇中人物，也不全等於真正歷史人物，而只是作家塑造的文學形象；劇中的許多故事，更是作者妙筆生花精心加工而成，但演義反映的人物和故事，已作為中華文化的一部分，長期以來影響著中國人的思想和價值觀，是中國人倫理教育的重要内容之一。人們對三國人物愛增分，或褒或貶，已成偶像一般，例如，劉備寬仁謙讓，諸葛亮鞠躬盡瘁死而後已，關公忠義，張飛粗中有細，曹操一世奸雄，孫權謀仁智勇，趙雲忠厚誠謹，周瑜有勇有謀，趙雲忠心耿耿，司馬懿三父子陰險殘忍，阿斗糊塗，少勝多的官渡大戰和火燒赤壁，種種策略的運用如

答案

一，泰勒街曾被稱作「水牛城街」。這是根據泰勒街和其他街道的建築物地契查證的。其他「紐約街道」還有阿伯尼街（ALBANY ST.）、企臣街（HUDSON ST.）、及UTICA街。
二，位於企臣街的黃純面廠是列在一九三一年的紐英裔華人指南上的唯一一家如今還在運作的華人擁有的生意。其他歷史悠久的華人企業還有創建於一九三二年的上海印務和創建於一九三四年的新新超級市場。
空城計、苦肉計、反間計等故事在民間廣泛流傳，啟人睿智。整部電視劇好戲連場，怎不令婷婷人迷？
「長江有意化作淚，長江有情起歌聲。」婷婷對這部電視劇的主題歌和插曲深有共鳴，經常哼唱，引發了她對歷史風雲變幻的無限遐思。她計劃把一部多采多姿的中國歷史電視劇看下去，在求知的道路上闢出新的蹊徑。

三，位於必珠街（BEACON ST.）的東方難鋪創立於八十六年前的一九一二年，是至今還在營業的華埠最老的生意。顧客到那里採購鮮活禽類，尤其是春節期間。
四，自一八七六年起，神職人員開始在各市鎮以英語巡回講道，同時為開始參與教堂活動的最早的華人勞工服務。華人移民涉入教會的人數增多，後來在波士頓中國城建立了第一座華人基督教教堂。華人青年會也曾為華人提供基督教服務。
五，按照一八七七年的波士頓生意指南，當年在華埠的四十家洗衣房中有十八家由華人擁有，佔百分之三十八。而兩年前一八七五年，二十三家洗衣房中有四家是華人的，佔百分之十七；到一八八零年，則在九十家中有四十三家由華人開，佔百分之四十八。這些數據也顯示了十九世紀末期，早期華人移民的安置狀況，以及他們在華埠內外開展洗衣業的情況。
六，對！據一九零一年波士頓前鋒報所載，十五歲的男孩梅英福是波士頓第一名華人報童，他在夏里臣街銷售波士頓前鋒報以及中文的華人前鋒報非常成功。
七，設計師是（A）RALPH HARRINGTON DOANE，他曾培訓於菲律賓，將西班牙式與中國式建築風格在此樓宇設計上融為一體。（GIDLEY J. E. BRYANT 設計了泰勒街九十號的昆士學校舊樓，而EDWARD CHIN PARK 設計了企臣街二十號的安良工商會大樓。）
八，沙士比亞的銅牌鑲在必珠街十五號的樓前，該樓現為公寓樓，住戶多為華人。沙翁一直在注視著所有的過路人，但卻少有路人注意到他，因此當你下次經過那里時，別忘了停下來看看他。
（紐英裔華人歷史協會提供）

初到波士頓

黎楠

四月底的一天，我與兒子經過十多個小時的飛行，我與兒子終於抵達波士頓。午後的波城春光明媚，鮮花盛開，空氣清新。兒子睜大眼睛，注視著查理士河畔的大廈、橋樑、以及河面上五光十色的帆船，感到新奇而驚訝。好一座美麗的城！市，好一個有趣的地方。奧爾尼的兒子，一絲憂慮爬上心頭。與飛往波士頓的臉龐上，即是我們從北京轉機必須與空中小姐交換座位，而我們母子必須聽從她的安排。在異國他鄉，不懂別人的語言，身在異國，有許多不便。作為家長，必須考慮到孩子的教育、語言、生活、孩子來到國外要過的第一難關。

劍橋教育中心取得聯繫。在我們抵達波士頓的第四天，就與馬丁·路德·金學校的校長會見，並與班主、各科任課教師見了面，並與家長聯繫。江太太的指導下，安排好了孩子入學的校車、午餐等一應細節。金學校是一所具有中英雙語計劃的學校，居住在大陸訪問學者、亞裔和近來波城的大陸訪問者，該校校舍整潔有序，室內佈置充滿多種文化的氣息，上至校長，下至普通教師均訓練有素，熱愛教育，喜歡學生。在劍橋中心，我兒子在國內念初中二年級，在國內也學過英語，但與英語為母語的學生同堂上課，還有很大的距離。幾乎是聽天書一般。不單是兒子不安，家長也提心吊膽。陌生的學校，開始了一個新的國家的生活。最初的一段時間，放學回家，兒子一臉愁雲，一身疲勞，只說：「蘇老師教了我們很多，中文輔導老師教了我們很多，中文輔導老師教了我們很多，中文輔導老師教了我們很多。」

多疑問，尤其是數學上的名詞、術語。蘇老師以及其他幾位老師，針對孩子的數學基礎、語言積累和接受能力給予他精心指導。有時幾乎是一字一句地講解、翻譯、拼讀，並對他提出記筆記、背單詞等要求。在老師們的共同努力下，僅五、六周後，兒子已基本上能獨立完成課本，完成家庭作業。分班測試中取得了好成績。主考教師認為兒子語言上有很大進步，下學期進入高中上課了。以英語授課的班級一同上課了。馬丁·路德·金學校的雙語教學方式為初來美國的學生盡快適應學校教育提供了恰到好處的幫助。他們採用的方法是，學生的主要課程如數學、科學、社會、英語等，跟主流班學習，課後由雙語教師針對性地個別輔導。用英語、中文指導孩子閱讀、複習等，這種方式使學生在語言方面收益非淺。同時該校還舉辦多種活動，邀請家長一同參加，增強了教學效果。例如，學校在六月份組織

了出海觀鯨活動，校內雙語計劃與家長歡聚一堂，嬉戲打鬧，增加面解和友誼，也開闊了眼界，增加了孩子與家長瞭解大自然，瞭解海洋生物，熱愛生命，熱愛生活。戲水的照片，已送回金學校作紀念，也準備向國內親友展示美國自然風情。暑假過後，兒子將進入劍橋市拉丁高中學習，他在金學校初二的兩個月，但對他適應美國的教學卻是有必要與良好的開端。在最後的正面印象。看到孩子已經積極、十足、活潑開朗，參加了高中暑期班，敢於結交新朋友，迎接新挑戰，我們家長頗為欣慰，也感謝美國教育系統和雙語計劃對新來者的有效幫助。波士頓的確是個美麗的城市，是一個令人流連忘返的可愛的地方。



七月四日獨立節的波士頓夜景